MINUTES

OF THE

Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

Spring and Fall Sessions

1923

ELDER W. C. EDWARDS, Moderator, Wingate,N.C.

J. W. JONES, Clerk and Treas., Peachland, N. C.

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Thirty-ninth Spring Session held with the church at Watson, Union county, N. C., Saturday before first Sunday in May, 1923. Also of the Ninety-first Annual or Fall Session held with the church at Pleasant Hill, Iredell county, N. C., on Saturday before first Sunday in October, 1923.

BEAR CREEK ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS SPRING SESSION 1923,

Watson Church, Union County, N. C.,
Saturday, May, 5 1923.

At 11 o'clock, A. M. the ministers and messengers present assembled in the house and after singing and prayer, Elder W. F. Pruett was requested to preach the introductory sermon, which he did from the 1st verse of the second chapter of Ephesians. Intermission one hour. Then on account of rain the association session was held in the home of brother Troy Simpson near by and preaching services in the meeting house.

At 1:30 P. M. the moderator called the body to order and requested Elder J. G. Southern to open service with prayer.

1. Called for the church letters. These were handed in and read by Bro. H. M. Baucom.

2. Re-elected Elder W. C. Edwards Moderator and J. W. Jones Clerk.

3. Invited messengers from sister associations to seats. Elder C. A. Davis of Salem, present and seated. Elder H. M. Williams of Silver Creek seated. Also Elder S. G. Candill of Senter seated.

4. Invited visiting ministers and brethren of sister associations to seats. Present and eated were the following: From Stanton River, Elder J. R. Wilson. From Upper Country Line, Elder W. F. Pruette. From Greensboro, Elder D. G. Staples and Elder J. G. Southern. From Little River, Elder J. E. Adams and Elder M. L. Riner of Lots Creek Georgia. Also received and seated brother H. E. Walser from Abbotts Creek.

5. Then called on committee, who were appointed last October to visit Jones Hill, to report. This committee were instructed by the association to advise with these brethren and sisters at Jones Hill and if possible, help them to restore peace and fellowship among themselves, but only one party or side of their trouble would meet with, or attend the meeting and we believe the party attending as represented by brethren John Little, Adam

Morton and Walter Greene, to be the Jones Hill church in order. This adopted and ratified by the association.

6. That Elders W. F. Pruette, M. L. Riner, C. A. Davis and J. R. Wilson preach at the stand on Sunday, service to commence at 10 A. M.

7. Appointed on arrangement committee, Elder W. R. Helms and Brothers P. A. Howard and J. F. Burrus with moderator and clerk.

8. Adjourned to 9:30 Monday morning. Benediction by the moderator.

Saturday evening preaching by Elders, J. E. Adams, J. G. Southern and D. G. Staples.

SUNDAY MAY 6.

Service at stand in grove at 10 A. M.

First, Elder W. F. Pruette, Text, Bring all your Tithes into the Lord's Store House.

Second, Elder M. L. Riner, Text, 1st verse of 61st chapter of Isaiah.

Intermission one hour.

Third, Elder C. A. Davis, Text, 1st verse of 51st chapter of Isaiah.

Fourth, Elder J. R. Wilson, Text, Awake O North Wind, etc.

Fifth, Elder B. L. Treece, Text, According as He has chosen us etc.

This was a good day, large crowd and wonderfully able and soul cheering preaching. Much love and interest manifested.

MONDAY MORNING MAY 7.

Reconvened at 9:30 A. M. pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Elder S. G. Candill. Renewed invitation to visiting brethren to seats.

9. Called on arrangement committee to report. Report read and adopted.

10. Called roll of messengers, noted absentees. Omitted reading Rules of Decorum.

11. Called on our correspondents to sister associations to report. Brother Burrus reported that he and others

attended Salem and Mill Branch and had good meetings.

12. Called on corresponding messengers from sister associations and visiting ministers present to report. Elders C. A. Davis of Salem, H. M. Williams Silver Creek, M. L. Riner of Georgia, J. R. Wilson of Stanton River and S. G. Candill all made pleasing reports. Also received and distributed corresponding Minutes from Mill Branch, Salem, Abbotts Creek, Silver Creek, Mountain District, Nolachuckey of Tenn., Senter and Zion Associations.

13. Called on Presbyteries to report. No report.

14. That we return thanks to God, this church and friends of the community for their kindness during this meeting.

15. Adjourned to time and place mentioned in last minutes.

Benediction by the moderator.

Preaching at the stand today in following order by Elders J. E. Adams, J. G. Southern, D. G. Staples, J. R. Wilson and closed by short but timely admonition by the moderator. At the close of these services two humble ladies were received into the fellowship of the Watson church amid much rejoicing. This was such a good meeting and we feel revived and built up in the Christian hope. Such meetings help to perpetuate peace and love among God's people on earth.

ELDER W. C. EDWARDS, Moderator.

J. W. JONES. Clerk.

MESSENGERS—SPRING SESSION, 1923.

Bear Creek—Jason Eudy, J. A. Barbee, A. J. Furr.
Bethany—By Letter.
Concord—M. A. Helms,* J. F. Burrus,* Elder W. R. Helms.
Clarks Grove—E. Barbee,* Robt. Lee.
Crooked Creek—J. E. Benton, D. A. Simpson, L. W. Greene.
Flat Lake—C. C. Hall,* C. R. McLendon,* D. P. Dunn.
Freedom—A. J. Deese.
High Hill—J. J. Hill, C. T. Mills, W. M. Clontz.
High Ridge—Willie Helms, Eld. W. C. Edwards, John Smith.
Howards Chapel—M. F. Coble, P. A. Howard, Arch Carpenter.
Jerusalem—H. F. Curlee, Crawford Thomas, Fult Thomas.
Jones Hill—J. A. Little,* Walter Green, Jona Morton.
Liberty—John Whitley, Oscar Broome, Ed. Privitte.
Liberty Hill—J. T. Crisco.
Lawyers Spring—J. W. Jones, H. M. Baucom, C. B. Edwards.
Meadow Creek—Elder D. S. Jones, H. A. Williams.*
Mountain Creek—Elder B. L. Treece, Willie Morton, J. C. Miller.
New Zion—S. M. Underwood,* W. M. Coley.
Pleasant Hill—J. A. Lee,* Jonas Taylor.*
Pleasant Grove—Elder J. F. Mills, A. M. Helms, E. Mullis.
Philadelphia—F. N. Gardner, Foster Beam,* Sam McKiney,
Running Creek—W. T. Tucker, J. H. McClure, R. F. Almond.
Union Grove—S. D. Outen, A. E. Little, L. W. Medlin.
Watson—J. T. Rushing, Oscar Mullis, S. L. Mullis.

Absentees marked thus (*)

BEAR CREEK ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS FALL SESSION, 1923.

Pleasant Hill Church, Iredell County, N. C.

Saturday, October, 6 1923.

Assembled in the house at 11 o'clock, A. M. and introductory sermon preached by Elder D. Smith Webb, a visitor from New River Association. Text, 9th verse of 12th chapter of 2nd Cor. Intermission one hour for dinner. About 1:30 P. M. re-assembled for business. Praise and prayer conducted by Elder W. C. McMillon. Then Elder Edwards the moderator took his seat and proceeded in usual order.

1. Called for the letters from the several churches. These were handed in and read by brother H. M. Baucom, reading clerk. Then by motion, the messengers named in the letters were seated in council.

2. Re-elected Elder W. C. Edwards Moderator and J. W. Jones Clerk.

3. Invited messengers present from sister corresponding associations to seats. The following were present, seated and welcomed: From Salem, Elder C. A. Davis and Brother T. J. Greer. From Senter, Elder J. A. Cave. From Mill Branch, Brother R. C. Gore. From Mountain District, Elder S. G. Candill and Brethren J. M. Rector, T. A. Tender, Floyd Edwards, Oscar Candill, Hyram Edwards and L. M. Reeves. From Abbots Creek, Brethren H. E. Walser and _. _. Williams. From Silver Creek, Brethren W. A. and T. H. Bentley and Charlie McGee. From Tennessee—Nolachuckey, Elder W. C. McMillon. From Fishers River, Elder J. M. Royal. Miuntes from Tennessee—Nolachuckey and Abbotts Creek.

4. Invited visiting ministers and brethren present from sister associations to seats. The following present, seated and welcomed: Elder Lee Hanks of Yellow River of Ga., Elder D. Smith Webb of New River of Va., Elder E. A. Long of Roaring River, Elder J. R. Wilson of Danville, Va., Elder W. F. Pruette of Upper Country Line, Elder Xure Lee and Brother B. F. Wood of Seven

Mile and Brother J. W. Terry of Lower Country Line and Brother J. W. Moorfield of Mayo and Elder L. J. Gresham of Texas.

5. Appointed Brethren W. H. Curlee, W. M. Clontz and Crawford Thomas with Moderator and Clerk a committee on arrangements.

6. Appointed Brethren H. M. Baucom and P. A. Howard committee on Finance.

7. That Elders W. F. Pruette, Lee Hanks, J. R. Wilson, D. Smith Webb and W. C. McMillon preach at the stand on Sunday and that service commence at 10 o'clock A. M.

8. Adjourned to 9 A. M. Monday. Benediction by the moderator. Preaching Saturday P. M. by Elders J. A. Cave and W. C. McMillon.

SUNDAY SERVICES OCTOBER 7.

Assembled around the stand at 10 A. M. Elder W. F. Pruette preached first from these words: "Be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only." Followed by Elder Lee Hanks from 13th to and including the 18th verse of Matthew, followed by Elder J. R. Wilson, from first verse of 40th chapter of Isa.

Intermission, one hour for dinner.

Then re-assembled and preaching continued by Elder D. Smith Webb, from 36th verse of 4th chapter of Luke, followed by Elder W. C. McMillon, from the words "Ye must be born again." The word was preached in power and much feeling and received joyfully by the hearers and not a jar or note of discord existed.

MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 8TH.

Re-convened in the house pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Elder J. M. Royal.

9. On resuming his seat the Moderator called on arrangement committee to report. Same was read and approved.

10. Renewed invitation to all visiting ministers and brethren to seats.

11. Called roll of messengers' names and noted ab-

sentees, but omitted reading Rules of Decorum.

12. Called on our corresponding messengers to sister associations to report. Brother J. F. Burrus stated that he attended the Silver Creek association, was received and had good meeting. Elder W. R. Helms stated that he and Elder B. L. Treece attended the Mountain District association, was received and had most comforting meeting. J. W. Jones reported that brethren W. A. Dry, T. A. McClellan and himself attended the Abbots Creek association, are received and seated.

13. Called on correponding messengers from sister associations to report. Brother Floyd Edwards reported peace and union and a desire to continue our mutual correspondence. Elder C. A. Davis of Salem reported a desire for a continued correspondence, and also same request by brother W. A. Bentley, of Silver Creek and Elder J. A. Cave, of Senter and Elder J. M. Royal, of Fishers' River and brother R. C. Gore, of Mill Branch. Very touching remarks of fellowship and endorsement of our people here in this association were made by Elders Lee Hanks, D. Smith Webb, E. A. Long and Xure Lee, who were present as visitors. This was much appreciated.

14. Called on Presbyteries to report. Elder W. R. Helms reported that himself and Elder W. C. Edwards and Deacon J. H. McClure formed a Presbytery on Tuesday before second Sunday in June, 1923 at Running Creek church and ordained brother E. M. Hatley a Deacon. Also Elder C. A. Davis stated that himself and Elder A. G. Morton formed a Presbytery on Saturday before fourth Sunday in June, 1923 at Pleasant Hill church and ordained brother Sam Rimmer a Deacon.

15. That we continue our usual and pleasant correspondence with sister associations as follows: To Abbotts Creek, Minutes, To Mill Branch, Elder W. R. Helms and brother J. M. Taylor, J. F. Burns and Minutes. To Salem, Elder D. S. Jones, brother J. F. Burrus and Minutes. To Mountain District, Elder B. L. Treece, W. C. Edwards, W. R. Helms and brother J.

M. Taylor, J. F. Burrus and Minutes. To Senter, Elder D. S. Jones, Willie Helms and Minutes. To Silver Creek, Elder W. R. Helms and Minutes. To Tennessee and Nolachuckey, Minutes. To Fishers' River, Elder W. R. Helms, brother W. A. Helms and Minutes.

16. Treasurer reported no funds left over from last year.

17. Finance committee reported sent up by the churches this year for Minute fund and associational purposes $108.05.

18. That the clerk apportion out among ministers present, surplus funds.

19. Resolved, that we, the ministers and messengers now present and composing this session of the Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association recommend the resolutions sent up to this session by several of our churches, stating, that they do not believe that God predestinated sin or the evil acts of men and Devils and we advise all of the churches of this association to adopt such resolutions and also that we advise our churches not to fellowship any man who advocates or preaches such false doctrine and that we keep such men out of our pulpits.

(The above was unanimously adopted and ordered published in our Minutes and was heartily endorsed by all the home and visiting ministers present.)

20. That our next Spring session of this association convene with the church at Lawyers Spring, Anson county, N. C., 12 miles west of Wadesboro, on Seaboard Rail Road and in the little town of Peachland, N. C., commencing on Saturday before the first Sunday in May, 1924. Elder B. L. Treece to preach the introductory sermon; Elder J. M. Bagwell, alternate. And that the Fall or annual session convene with the church at Meadow Creek, Stanly county, N. C., near the town of Stanfield on Norfolk and Southern Rail Road, between Charlotte and Norwood, N. C., and commence on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1924. Elder W. C. Edwards to preach the introductory sermon, Elder J. M. Bagwell also his alternate.

21. That the clerk superintend and have 1100 copies of these Minutes printed and distributed as usual and that he have twelve dollars of our funds for services.

22. That we return thanks to God, this church and people of surrounding community for hospitality and kindness during this meeting.

(Then read and approved above Minutes.)

23. Adjourned in order to time and place above mentioned and closed with short prayer by the Moderator.

Preaching at the stand today by Elders J. M. Royal, Xure Lee and B. L. Treece.

ELDER W. C. EDWARDS, Moderator, Wingate,N.C.
J. W. JONES, Clerk, Peachland, N. C.

MESSENGERS—FALL SESSION, 1923.

Bear Creek—A. J. Furr, Jason Eudy, Henry Almon.
Bethany—Represented by Elder J. F. Mills,
Concord—M. A. Helms, J. F. Burrus, James Hinson,*
Clarks Grove—R. J. Lee. E. Barbee.*
Crooked Creek—L. L. Little, D. L. Williams, D. A. Simpson.
Freedom—A. J. Deese.
Flat Lake—C. R. McLendon,* C. C. Hall,* D. P. Dunn.*
High Hill—Elder J. M. Bagwell, J. J. Hill, W. M. Clontz.
High Ridge—Elder W. C. Edwards, J. P. Rushing, John Smith.
Howards Chapel—M. F. Coble,* P. A. Howard.
Jerusalem—W. H. Curlee, Crawford Thomas, E. W. Helms.
Jones Hill—A. A. Morton,* Walter Green,* J. A. Little.*
Liberty—J. B. Whitley.
Liberty Hill—J. T. Crisco.
Lawyers Spring—J. W. Jones, H. M. Baucom, C. B. Edwards.
Meadow Creek—H. A. Williams,* Elder D. S. Jones.
Mountain Creek—Willie Morton, J. S. Miller, J. S. Misenheimer.
New Zion—Willie Coley, S. M. Nnderwood.*
Pleasant Grove—L. L. Griffin, J. M. Williams, James Edwards.
Pleasant Hill—Sam Rimmer, J. M. Stamper, R. C. Perkins.
Philadelphia—S. J. McKiney,* Julius Beam,* F. N. Gardner.*
Running Creek—R. F. Almon, J. D. Eudy, W. M. Almon.
Union Grove—T. F. Hill, S. D. Outen, L. W. Medlin.
Watson—W. A. Hargett, Troy Simpson.

Absentees marked thus (*).

STATISTICAL TABLE FOR 1923.

CHURCHES	By Experience and Baptism	Rec. by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Leeter	Excluded	Deceased	Membership	Contributions
Bear Creek							20	$ 3.25
Bethany							3	1.50
Concord	1			2			19	4.00
Clarks Grove						1	15	5.00
Crooked Creek	1				1	1	21	5.00
Freedom							3	1.00
Flat Lake							10	3.10
High Hill	2	1		1			43	6.00
High Ridge	2						30	3.85
Howards Chapel		1					29	5.00
Jerusalem	4						31	10.50
Jones Hill					7	1	20	2.50
Liberty	3		1				22	2.25
Liberty Hill	1					1	9	2.35
Lawyers Spring	5		1	2	1	1	54	10.30
Meadow Creek		1					10	5.00
Mountain Creek	5	1	1	2		1	20	5.70
New Zion			2				11	2.00
Pleasant Grove	7		1				48	10.00
Pleasant Hill	2					1	23	3.00
Philadelphia	3		1				21	2.75
Running Creek		2					28	5.00
Union Grove					2	1	31	5.00
Watson	5			1		1	24	4.00

CHURCHES, CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES, 1923.

Communion Meeting

Sunday

Bear Creek—J. A. Barbee, Oakboro, N. C., _ _ _ _1st in August
Bethany—Miss Jane P. Pones, Rt.-A., Wadesboro N. C., _ 3rd Aug.
Concord—M. A. Helms, Kanapolis, N. C., _ _ _ _3rd in August
Clarks Grove—E. Barbee, Stanfield, N. C., Rt.-2, _ _ _2nd in Aug.
Crooked Creek—L. L. Little, Unionville, N. C., _ _ _ 4th in July
Freedom—J. W. Deese, Rt.-6, Albemarle, N. C. _ _
Flat Lake—C. R. McLendon, Rt.-1, Mt. Gilead, N. C., _ 4th in July
High Hill—W. M. Clontz Rt.-1, Unionville, N. C., _ _ _1st in Sept.
High Ridge—J. B. Medlin, Rt.-1, Marshville, N. C. _ _ 3rd in July
Howards Chapel—Arch Carpenter, Rt.-1, Norwood, N. C., 1st Sept.
Jerusalem—T. F. Mills, Marshville, N. C., _ _ _ _ 2nd in August
Jones Hill—Walter Green, Oakboro, N. C. R. 1. _ _ _ 3rd in Sept.
Liberty—J. B. Whitley, Rt. 7, Monroe, N. C.
Liberty Hill—J. A. Barbee, Oakboro, N. C. _ _ _ _ _ _ 4th in July
Lawyers Springs—H. M. Baucom, Peachland, N. C. _ _ 1st in Aug.
Meadow Creek—H. A. Williams, Rt. 7, Salisbury, N. C. _ 3rd Aug.
Mountain Creek—J. S. Misenheimer, Albemarle, N. C. _ 2nd Sept.
Pleasant Hill—H. P. P. Cashion, Rt. 2, Barber, N. C. _ _ 4th in June
Philadelphia—Foster Beam, Ellenboro, N. C. _ _ _ _ 4th in Aug.
Running Creek—J. H. McClure, Rt. 1, Mt. Pleasant, N. C. 2nd Aug,
Union Grove—A. E. Little Unionville, N. C. _ _ _ _ 2nd in Sept.
Watson—S. L. Mullis, Rt. 2, Unionville, N. C. _ _ _ 4th in May

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NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF OUR ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Elder J. F. Mills, Route 1, Marshville, N. C.

Elder W. C. Edwards, Wingate, N. C.

Elder Henry Taylor, Monroe, N. C.

Elder B. L. Treece, Route 2, Albemarle, N. C.

Elder W. R. Helms, Mt. Pleasant, N. C.

Elder D. S. Jones, Stanfield, N. C.

Elder J. M. Bagwell, Monroe, N. C.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1923.

Sent up by the churches for printing Minutes and associational expense _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _$108.05

DISBURSEMENTS

For Printing and Mailing Minutes _ _	$ 48.00	
Allowance to Clerk for Service _ _ _ _	12.00	
Distributed to Ministers _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	45.00	
Total Disbursements _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	$105.00	$105.00
Leaving in Treasury to be spent on New Book		$ 3.05
		$108.05

RULES OF DECORUM.

1st. A Moderator, or Chief Speaker, and Clerk may be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

2nd. The Chief Speaker, or Moderator, shall take his seat at the hour to which the Association shall be adjourned, and after prayer shall proceed to business. It shall be his duty to keep order, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as that of another member; provided, he appoint one of the members to fill the chair during the exercise of such privilege, and in no case shall give a vote unless the Association be equally divided.

3rd. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Chief Speaker by the appellation of brother, and while speaking shall confine himself strictly to the subject in question, and shall not be interrupted unless he digress from the subject, and shall in no wise reflect on any other speaker, so as to make remarks on his slips and failings and imperfections, but shall fairly give his own views of the case without sophistry or criticism.

4th. No person shall speak more than three times on one subject without leave of the Association.

5th. No person shall absent himself from the Association without leave.

6th. No member of the Association shall address any other member by any other term or name than that of brother.

7th. The Chief Speaker, or Moderator, shall not interrupt one member to prohibit him from speaking until his speech is finished, except he break the Rules of Decorum.

8th. The names of all members of the Association shall be enrolled by the clerk, and be called over as often as the Association may require.

9th. Any member who shall willingly and knowingly break or violate any of the foregoing rules of this Association, shall be reproved by the Association in any way they may think proper.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in one only living and true God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Art. 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, providence, grace and glory, and in relative union with the divine word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Art. 3. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New testaments contain the only written revealed word of God, and are the perfect rule of faith and practice for God's church in her militant state while here on earth.

Art. 4. We believe in the doctrine of Election, that God chose His church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Art. 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, the federal head.

Art. 6. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Art. 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Art. 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and his righteousness only.

Art. 9. We believe that God's elect or church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Art. 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in

grace and never really fall away.

Art. 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men.

Art. 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptised, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular Presbytery.

Art. 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust, and a general judgment.

Art. 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.